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Message Text

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14
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-10

NSAE-00 PA-02 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 FEA-01 AGR-10 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00

CIEP-02 COME-00 DLOS-04 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-04

ERDA-07 FMC-02 H-02 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 NSC-05

NSF-02 OES-06 OMB-01 SAL-01 /152 W
---------- 101426
P 191717Z MAY 76
FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6328
INFO COMICEDEFOR
CINCLANT
USCINCEUR
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
USNATO PRIORITY 1440

UNCLAS REYKJAVIK 0711

OSLO FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIS, PFOR, IC, UK, US, NATO
SUBJECT: LUNS STATEMENT USED TO CRITICIZE NATO AND US

REF: REYKJAVIK 0704 (DTG 181703Z MAY 76)

1. PRESS IS DEVOTING MAJOR ATTENTION TO STATEMENT BY NATO SYG LUNS RE ENORMOUS VALUE OF KEFLAVIK BASE (PARA FOUR REFTEL). TWO PAPERS THUS FAR HAVE SEIZED
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ON REMARKS TOMAKE POINT THAT NATO AND US TREATMENT OF

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ICELAND IN FISHERIES DISPUTE IS POOR REWARD FOR VALUABLE
SERVICE ICELAND IS PROVIDING ALLIANCE.

2. PROGRESSIVE PARTY'S TIMING, IN MAY 19 EDITORIAL
BY TLTHING FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
THORARINN THORARINSSON, BEGAN BY CITING LUNS'
ESTIMATION OF VALUE OF KEFLAVIK BASE AND WENT ON TO
NOTE DANGER TO ICELAND POSED BY PRESENCE HERE OF
MILITARY FACILITIES SHOULD WAR BREAK OUT. EDITORIAL
CONTINUED: "ICELANDERS MIGHT EXPECT SOME APPRECIATION
FOR PROVIDING THESE FACILITIES TO NATO AND ESPECIALLY
TO THE US. BUT WHAT IS THEIR REWARD? ICELANDERS ARE
ENGAGED IN A STRUGGLE WITH AN OLD COLONIAL POWER WHICH
IS MERCILESSLY TRYING TO DESTROY THE BASIS FOR THEIR
EXISTENCE. THEY ASKED THE AMERICAN FOR SOME PATROL
BOATS, WHICH COULD GREATLY STRENGTHEN THEM IN THEIR
BATTLE WITH THE INVADERS. THE US REPLY WAS FLAT NO.
NEITHER THE US NOR OTHER NATO MEMBERS SEEM TO HAVE
PUT ANY REAL PRESSURE ON THE BRITISH TO STOP THEIR

AGGRESSION. THUS ARE ICELANDERS DISREGARDED AND
HUMILIATED BY THOSE WHO PROFESS TO BE THEIR ALLIES.
IT IS NO WONDER THAT THERE IS GROWING SENTIMENT THAT
ICELANDERS SHOULD REVIEW THEIR WHOLE POLICY TOWARD
THE DEFENSE FORCE."

3. IN SUB-EDITORIAL SAME DAY, THORARINSSON SAID THAT
OSLO MINISTERIAL WOULD SHOW WHETHER ICELAND COULD
EXPECT ANY SUPPORT FROM ALLIES. IF NOT, MOVE TO
RECALL AMBASSADOR FROM BRUSSELS WOULD GAIN FOLLOWING
HERE SINCE ICELAND COULD HARDLY SIT SIDE-BY-SIDE
WITH ITS ATTACKERS IN DEFENSE
RGANIZATION.

4. INDEPENDENT AFTERNOON DAILY DAGBLADID SIAD IN
MAY 18 EDITORIAL THAT ICELAND S OULD STOP SACRIFICING
ISELF IN NATO'S BEHALF. EDITORIAL NOTED VALUE
ATTACHED TO KEFLAVIK BASE BY LUNS AND SAID HAT, UNLIKE
MOST NATIONS, ICELAND SOUGHT NO COMPENSATION FOR USE
OF FACILIIES EVEN THOUGH, "FIRST AND FOREMOST ROLE
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OF BASE IS DEFENSE OF US AND OTHER ALLIES."

PAPER CONCLUDED, "THE FOREIGN MINISTER MUST PUT
BEFORE NATO AN ULTIMATUM AT THE MINISTERIAL MEETING
IN OSLO... HE HAS NO MISSION THERE OTHER THAN TO
TELL ALLIES THAT THEY CAN NO LONGER DEPEND ON ICELAND'S
WILLINGNESS TO SACRIFICE. THAT TIME HAS PASSED.
ICELANDERS WILL CEASE PARTICIPATION IN NATO IF THERE

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IS NOT A QUICK END TO BRITISH AGGRESSION."
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, FISHING DISPUTES, NAVAL SHIPS, MILITARY BASES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 MAY 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976REYKJA00711
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760195-0645
From: REYKJAVIK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760537/aaaabfgc.tel
Line Count: 117
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 REYKJAVIK 704
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hackerp0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 FEB 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 FEB 2004 by morefirh>; APPROVED <01 FEB 2005 by hackerp0>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LUNS STATEMENT USED TO CRITICIZE NATO AND US
TAGS: EFIS, PFOR, IC, UK, US, NATO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006